


Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,

I stand in support of SB214, most cattle thieves do not actually trespass on our land to steal our cattle. They open gates or put out salt blocks on county lanes to encourage the cattle to leave. With this being the case, it is very hard to catch the rustlers. If we ever are fortunate enough to catch them and they are prosecuted, it is very distressing to find that our judges let them go, typically with just a small fine and a suspended sentence. It's possible the judges are giving the suspended sentence instead of prison time to save cell space for more dangerous criminals. If this bill becomes law, we would again have a deterrent factor in that they would have to perform a year of community service, lose whatever equipment they used in the act of the crime and have a minimum fine of \$10,000.

Thank you for your time and I urge you to vote for this bill.

Respectfully,



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